

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1  
2  
3 An apparatus and methods facilitate collection of print job status information. A first  
4 method configures a computer to obtain status information for subsequent print jobs to a  
5 printer. The first method supplies a proxy printer driver in place of an actual printer driver  
6 associated with the printer. The first method may hook a function in the actual printer driver.  
7 The first method may also configure the computer to spool RAW datatype to the printer. The  
8 first method may also store a unique identifier of the computer in the registry. The first  
9 method may also set a flag within the registry so as to indicate that the computer is able to  
10 provide status for print jobs on the printer. A second method gathers print status for a print  
11 job from a computer to a printer. The second method executes a proxy printer driver while  
12 producing the print job, wherein the proxy printer driver is a proxy for an actual printer  
13 driver. The second method inserts into the print job a unique identifier of the print job. The  
14 second method also queries at least one of a spooler and the printer regarding status of the  
15 print job. Optionally, the second method may detect inception of the print job and produce a  
16 notification of the status of the print job. In executing the proxy printer driver, the second  
17 method preferably receives a call to a function and calls a corresponding function in the  
18 actual printer driver. In some embodiments, the proxy printer driver produces RAW data.  
19 The apparatus is a computer readable medium on which is embedded a computer program.  
20 The program comprises a proxy printer driver translation part, the proxy printer driver  
21 translation part being a proxy for an actual printer driver translation part. Optionally, the  
22 program comprises one or more of a status configuration utility, a status monitor, a spooler  
23 comprising a port monitor, a graphic device interface, a registry, the actual printer driver  
24 translation part and an application.